Coordinator Catch-ups:
Local responses to Covid-19
10:00 - 11:30 every Wednesday

Agenda
• Welcome and programme updates
• Food Power gathering, Simon Shaw, Food Power/Sustain
• An update on the Agriculture Bill and farming sector, Vicki Hird, Sustain
• Local partnership in action: Food Durham; Markets & supporting producers in Northumberland, Peter Samson, Food Durham
• Food for Good Coalition in Edinburgh, Simon Kenton-Lake, Nourish
• AOBs
Agriculture policy under a pandemic

Vicki hird
@vickihird
27 May 2020
Agriculture Bill

- 2.5 years after the consultation
- Some really valuable changes to how we support farmers
  - Public money for public benefits
  - Ancillary support
  - Fair dealing and transparency in supply chain
- Third Reading with MPs in May – no amendments
- Goes to House of Lords 10 June
- BIG issues – trade standards, public health, regulatory baselines, funding and overall framework – lacks accountability
Labour crises

- Current issues due to covid-19 and in general
- UK workers 1 fifth ‘efficiency’ of migrant
- Not UK only
- Brexit 1\textsuperscript{st} Jan 2021 – major problem
- More fundamental reforms needed in supply chain
- Farmers get 8\% of food £ spent and take much of the risks
- Can we build more but better food enterprises with, family friendly, quality work?
Resilience in farming and food

- Supporting local food producers and infrastructure
- Promoting great food providers – buy local, buy better
- Building capacity eg peri-urban growing, agroecological, new trading platforms

- Policies: A regional food supply chain promotion and infrastructure (abattoirs, hubs, storage, milling); farm support; Training and advice and facilitation; dynamic procurement.
6 tips

1. Support local farmers, fishers, bakers and farm initiatives where you can by buying from them on-line.
2. Be patient if there are glitches. No one has done this kind of transformation before on such a scale.
3. Waste no food.
4. Consider working on a farm if you can and have free time now.
5. Join and Support campaigns and local initiatives.